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Docket: 02560039aa

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REMARKS

The applicant and the undersigned thank the Examiner for the Interview which took place on September 2, 2005. At the interview, it was agreed that the prior art did not show a system or method with the ability to provide measurement information or descriptive information with a portion of the environmental database model. As suggested by the Examiner, these requirements were included in the body of the independent claims as well as the preamble.

Claims 42, 43, 85, and 86 are active in the application. Claims 42 and 85 have been amended in a manner similar to, but different from that which is discussed in the office action with reference to the telephonic interview of April 27, 2005. Claims 42 and 85 are now in a form similar to that which was discussed during the Interview of September 2, 2005.

Claims 42 and 85 have been amended to highlight that the method and system are used for conducting one or more measurement surveys of spatially distributed objects in a physical space. As was discussed previously, the present invention is a computerized method and system which associates and displays measurements or quality metrics and descriptive information of networks, infrastructure or other objects in a spatially distributed environment. As one example, Figures 9 and 10 illustrate associating textual strings and/or graphical icons with locations and/or regions within a 2D or 3D representation of a floor plan of a building, respectively. The environment could be indoor or outdoor, and could be, for example, a street map of a city (see page 38, line 26). Using a pull down window, such as that shown in figure 6 of the application, text strings or icons with associated measurement information or quality measures can be selected and be associated with a defined location or region in the display of the environment, such as region 902, 903 or 904, or point 905, or the counseling room 906, shown in Figure 9 of the application. As explained on page 39 of the application, as an exemplary embodiment of the invention, any reading that is associated with the text string "counseling room 101D" can then be displayed within the computer representation of the environment, and can be edited and changed at any time. This invention, thus, provides the flexibility of site-specific

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display of collected measurement readings (and/or other quality measures) even though the reading themselves (and/or inputted quality measures) do not contain absolute positioning information such as latitude-longitude coordinates or X,Y,Z coordinates (see page 39, at line 26).

The claimed invention contemplates an association of measurement information and descriptive information for a distributed group of objects or networks, and a display of the measurement information and/or descriptive information in the context of an environmental database (e.g., representing actual physical objects distributed in physical space). Independent claims 42 and 85 have been amended to highlight this association occurring under computer control.

Claims 42, 43, 85, and 86 have been rejected as being obvious over a combination of U.S. Patent 6,829,584 to Loveland in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0197721 to Mindrum. This rejection is traversed.

As is acknowledged, Loveland does not teach collecting information and descriptive information for a distributed group of objects. In short, Loveland has nothing to do with conducting a measurement face on an automated basis which can employ both skilled and unskilled personnel. Rather, Loveland describes a virtual home data repository where, for example, physical objects can be associated with warranty information. Loveland does not contemplate a system where one collects measurement information

As is acknowledged, Loveland does not teach obtaining descriptive information from a predefined set of selections which are selected from the group consisting of text strings and icons. That is, Loveland may provide warranty information, insurance information, etc. for a particular object in a home, but, in Loveland, there is no choosing of a text string or icon that pertains to descriptive information (i.e., there is no smile 1101 as shown in Figure 11 of the application, for example). At best, Loveland provides an inventory which can be shared with bankers and insurers.

Due to the above, Loveland also does not show a computer being used to associate a performance metric with descriptive information as required in the claims.

Contrary to the position taken by the Examiner, Mindrum does not make PAGE 5/7 * RCVD AT 9/2/2005 7:10:51 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):01-44

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up for the deficiencies of Loveland (particularly as the claims are amended).

Mindrum describes being able to make a commemorative video presentation from a plurality of stored images, and particularly contemplates accessing and presenting stored images in conformance to configuration data. Based on the comments of the Examiner, it appears that the Examiner is equating editing of captions to the required "text strings" of the claimed invention. First, the Examiner will understand that "editing" by nature is not the same as the selections being a "predefined set" that are "selected from the group consisting of text strings and icons" as is contemplated by the present invention. Quite the contrary. Mindrum is contemplating providing editorial information that is changeable. Second, Mindrum is using a person's input for editing. The Examiner will acknowledge this quite different from using a computer to associate the descriptive information and the measurement information as required in the claims.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, claims 42, 43, 85, and 86 are now in *prima facie* condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date is requested.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this seven page amendment is being transmitted by facsimile to the USPTO on September 2, 2005, by transmission to the fax telephones having the numbers 703-872-9306 and 571-273-7799.

Michael E. Whitham